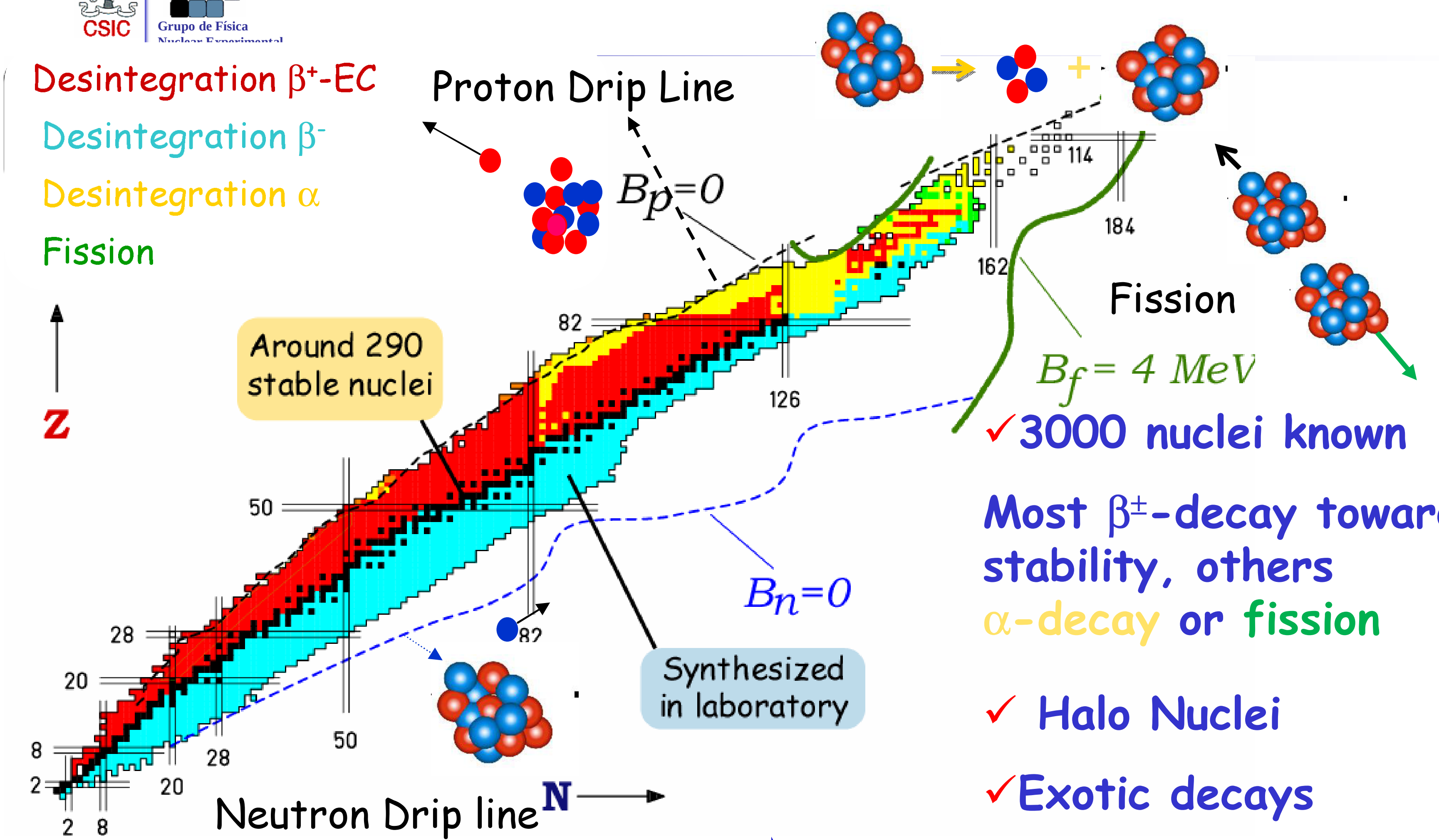
Grupo de Física Nuclear Experimental

Beta-delayed Charged particles : Peering into Nuclear Structure

María José García Borge

Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, CSIC

Nuclear Landscape



Near the drip lines

✓3000 nuclei known

Most $\beta^{\pm}$-decay towards stability, others α-decay or fission

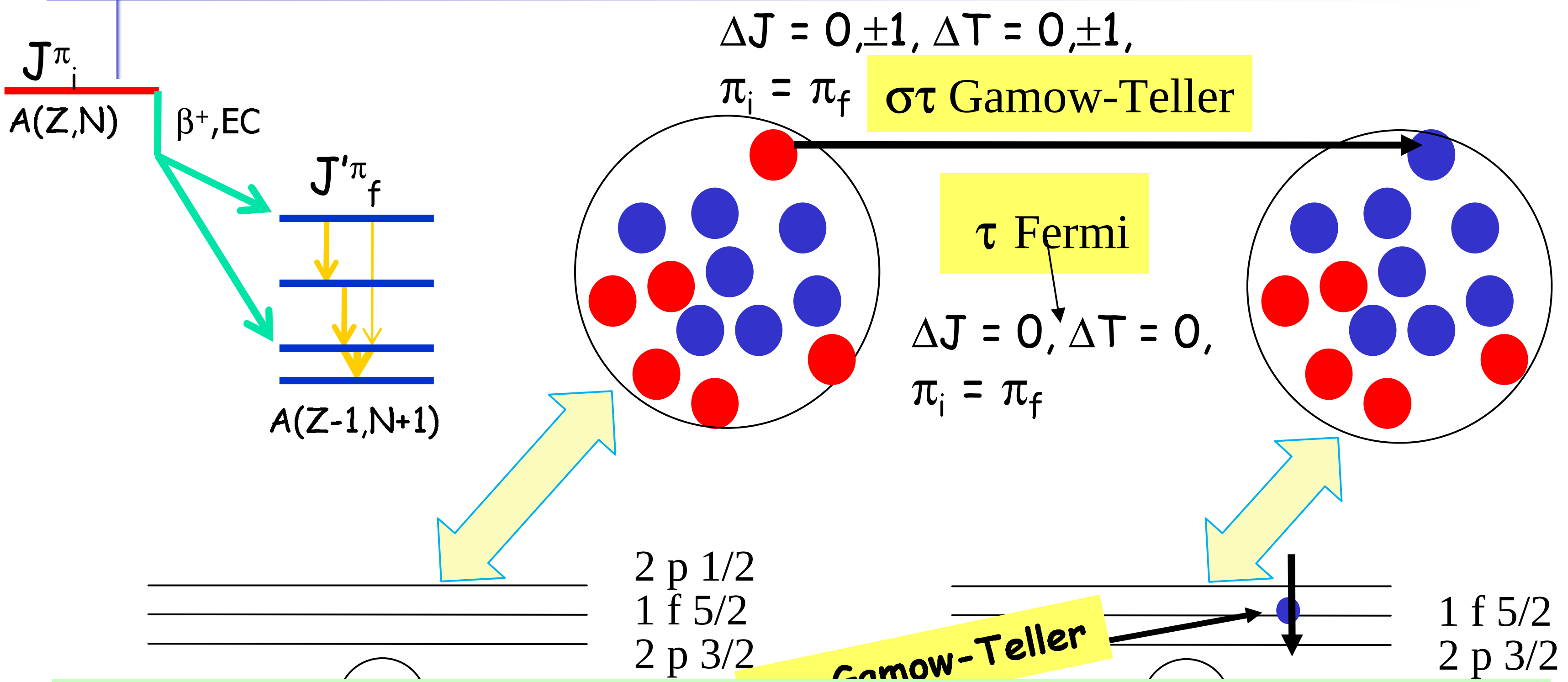
✓ Halo Nuclei

✓Exotic decays

✓Asymmetries

✓Order to Chaos

β-decay process

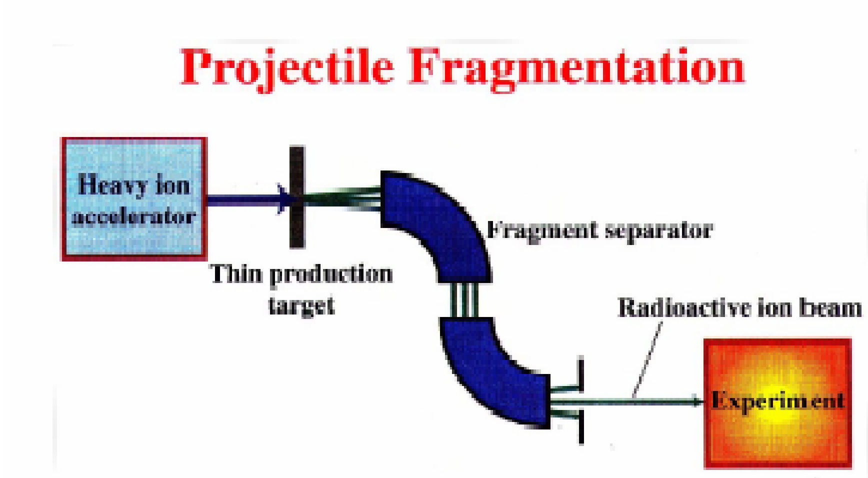


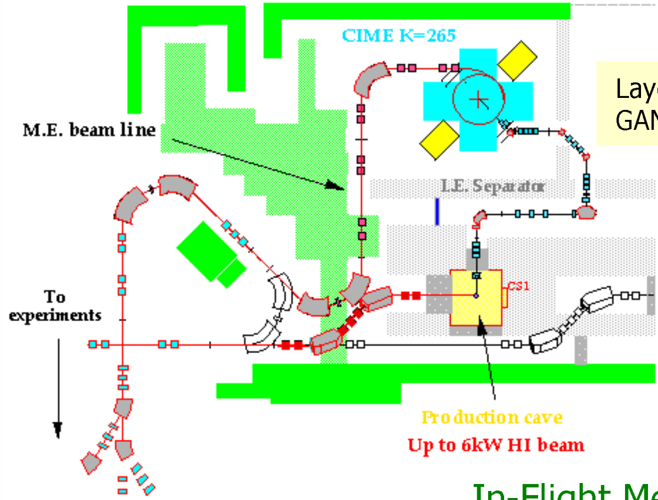
- $\beta^{\pm}$-decay gives first glance on the structure by the half-life
- Detailed spectroscopy gives the microscopic structure

$$B_{GT} = \left|\langle \psi_f | \sum \sigma\tau^{\pm} | \psi_i \rangle\right|^2$$

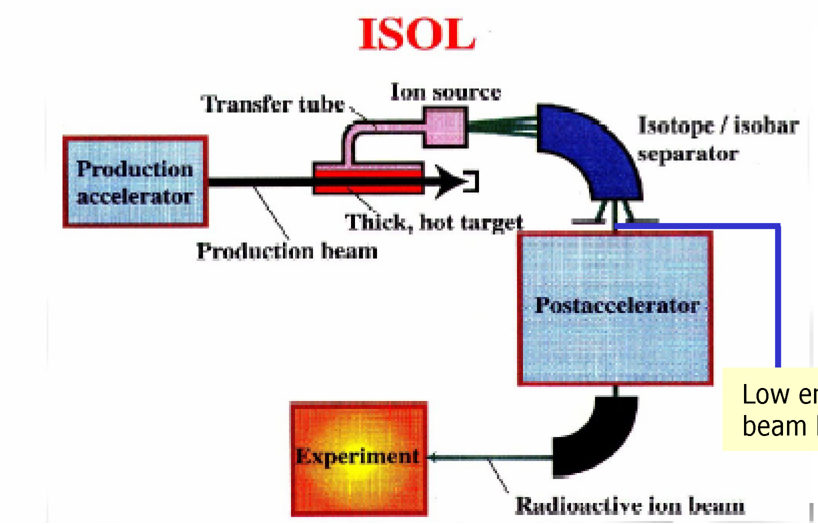
$$B_F = \left|\langle \psi_f | \sum \tau^{\pm} | \psi_i \rangle\right|^2$$

Production of Exotic Nuclei

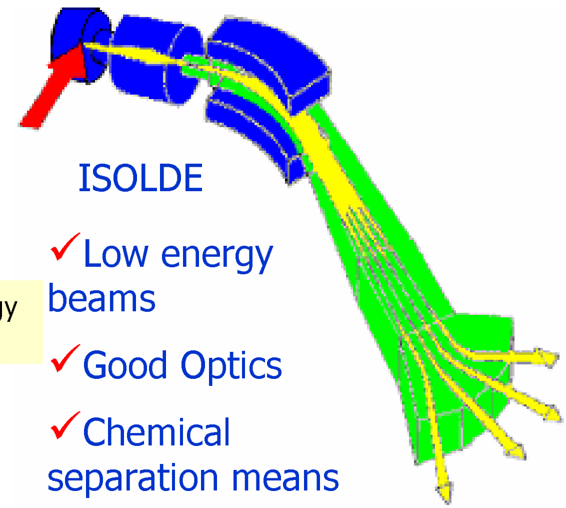




Layout of GANIL



Low energy beam line



ISOLDE

- ✓Low energy beams
- ✓Good Optics
- ✓Chemical separation means

In-Flight Method

- ✓Short separation times
- ✓Direct determination of B.R.
- ✓High efficiency due to deep implantation on detectors
- ✓Simultaneous Measurement of several nuclei

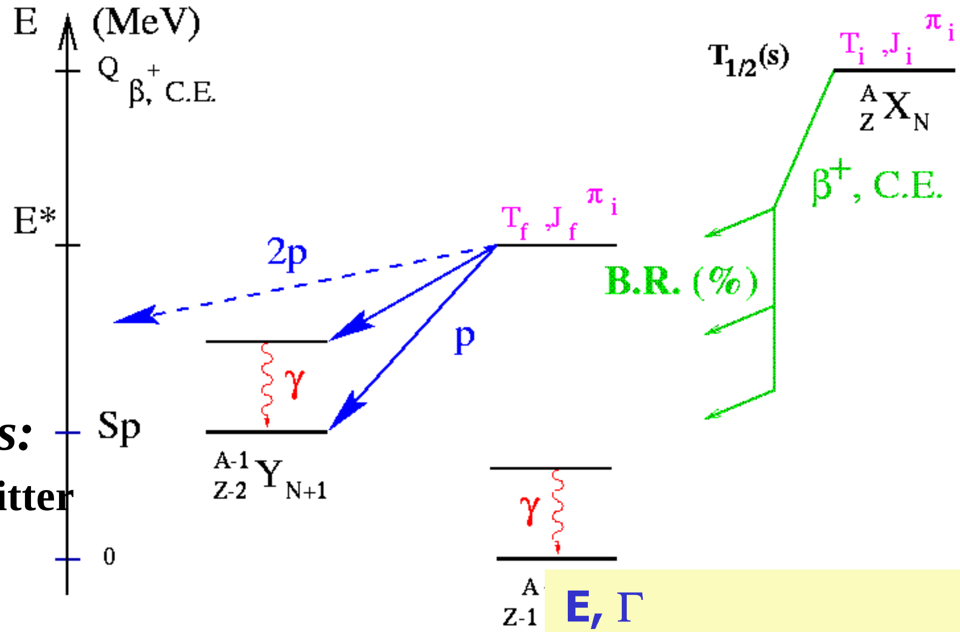
Decay properties of exotic nuclei

- 1916 **Rutherford & Wood** βα [*Philos. Mag.* ***31*** *(1916) 379*]
- 1963 **Barton & Bell** identified ^{25}Si as **βp**

➢ Global properties

- *Short half-lives (~ms)*
- *High Q_β values*
- *Low $S_{p/n}$ values*

→ β-delayed particle emission



➢ β⁺ (C.E.) emission

- ***β-delayed particle spectrum depends:***
  - **beta-feeding to the unbound levels in emitter**
  - **Probability to emit the charged particle**
- ***Reduced transition probability:***

$$ft = f * \frac{T_{1/2}}{B.R.} = \frac{K}{G_V^2|\tau|^2 + G_A^2|\sigma\tau|^2} = \frac{C}{B(F) + B(GT)}$$

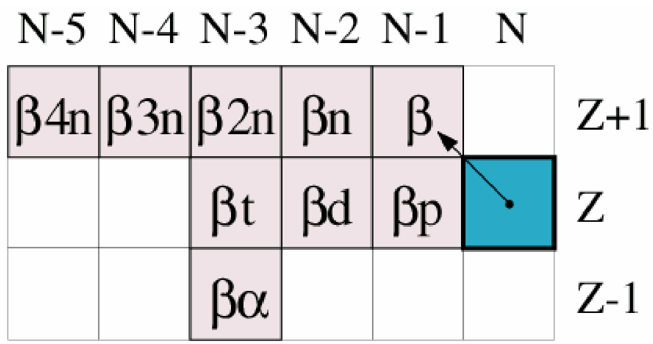
E, Γ

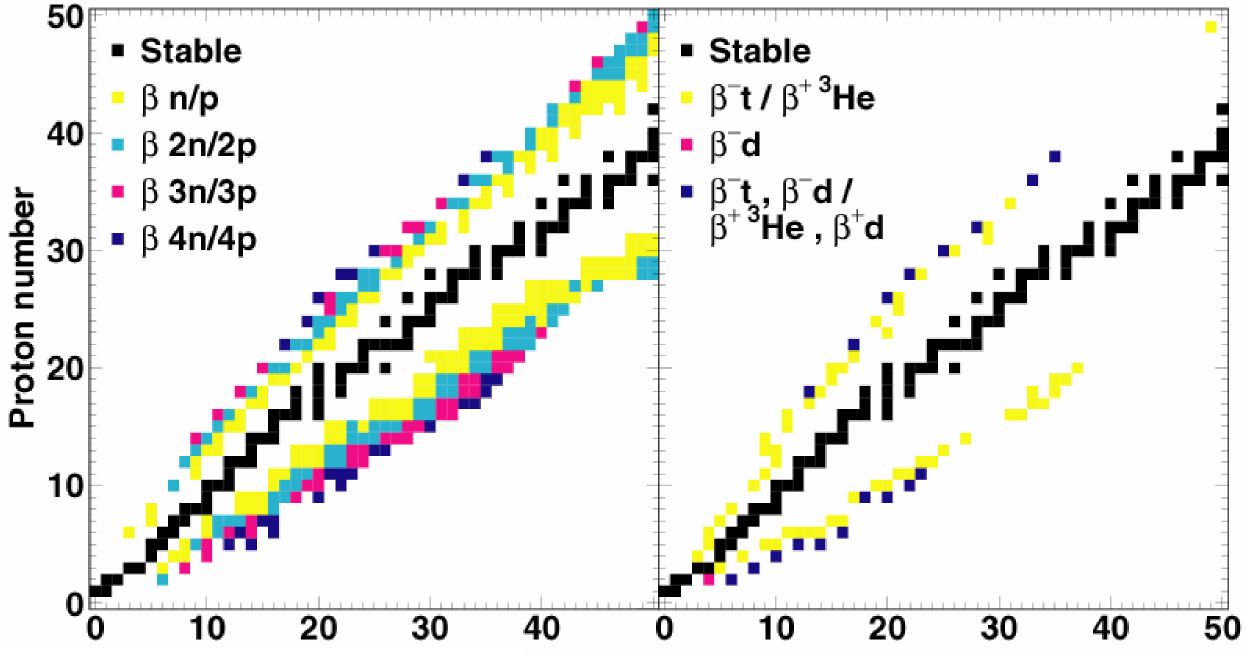
Level density

Spin, Isospin

β-decay properties

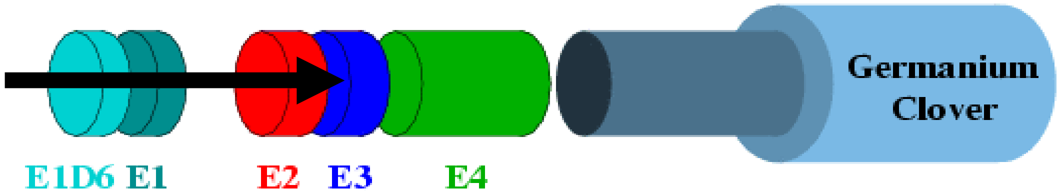
Beta delayed particle emitters

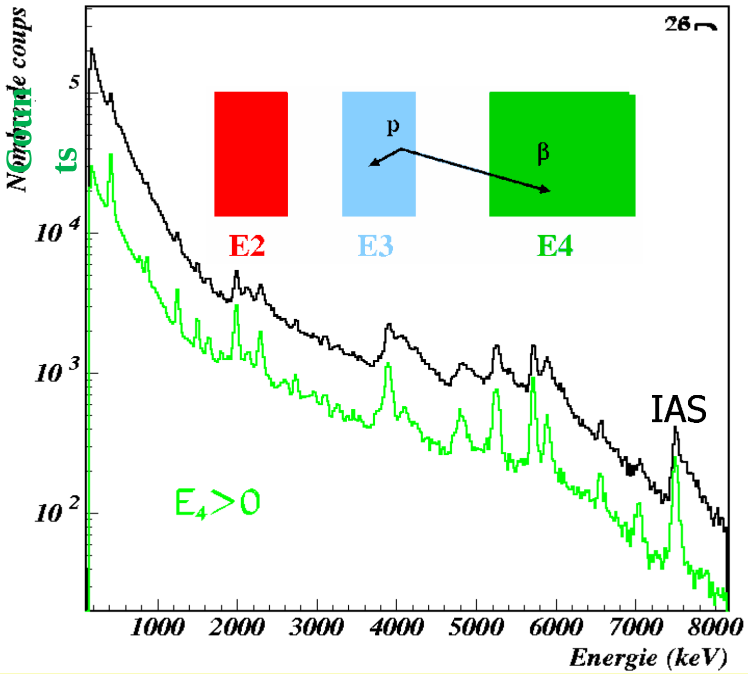


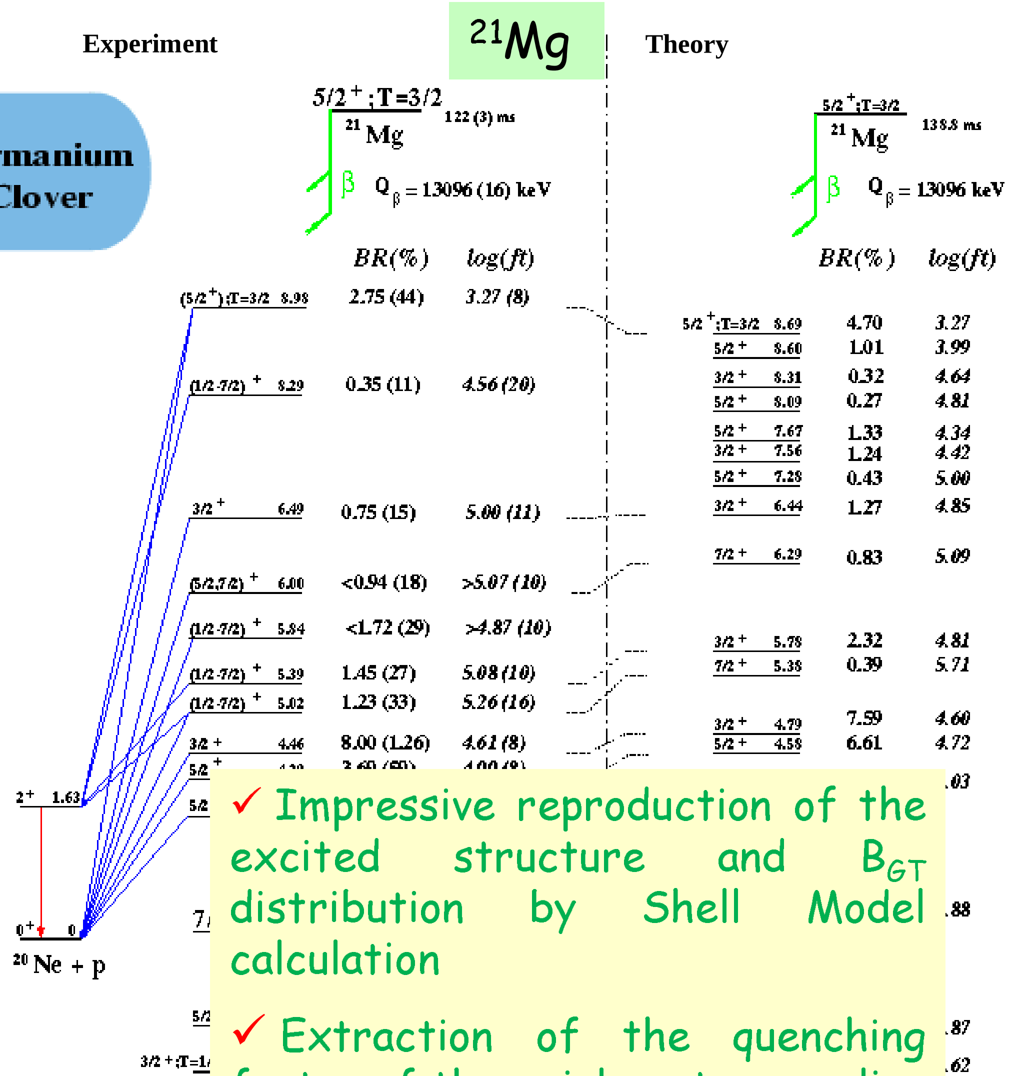


B.Jonson & K. Riisager, NPA693 (2001) 77

Powerful Source of Nuclear Structure Information







β-delayed proton spectrum gives level information in a broad energy range

✓ Impressive reproduction of the excited structure and B_{GT} distribution by Shell Model calculation

✓ Extraction of the quenching factor of the axial-vector coupling constant

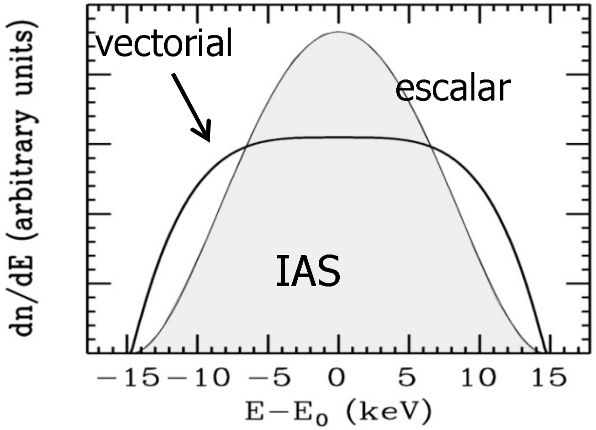
Search for New Physics

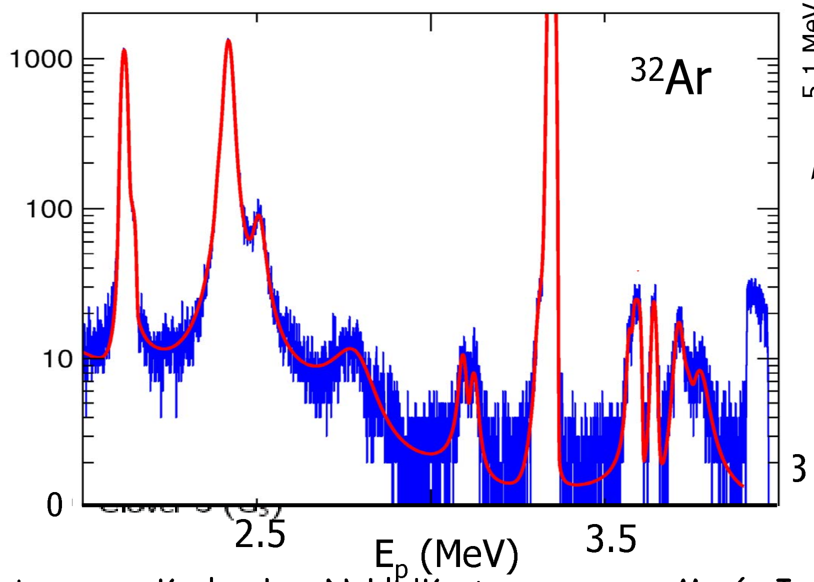
✓e-ν correlation a good probe of weak interactions

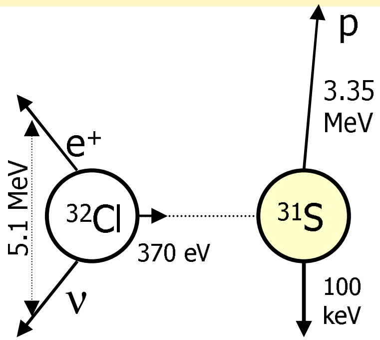
✓ The V-A character of β-decay determined by measuring e-ν correlation through the daughter recoil in 1963

✓Improved precision to find new physics by using βp emitter . e-ν correlation determined from the broadening of proton peak from IAS in $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ transitions

✓Supersymmetry and Models with lepto-quarks predicts scalar contributions to the weak interactions.







- Isospin mixing in Fermi decays
- Limit for scalar component in beta decays $|C_A/C_V|^2 < 3.6\times10^{-3}$

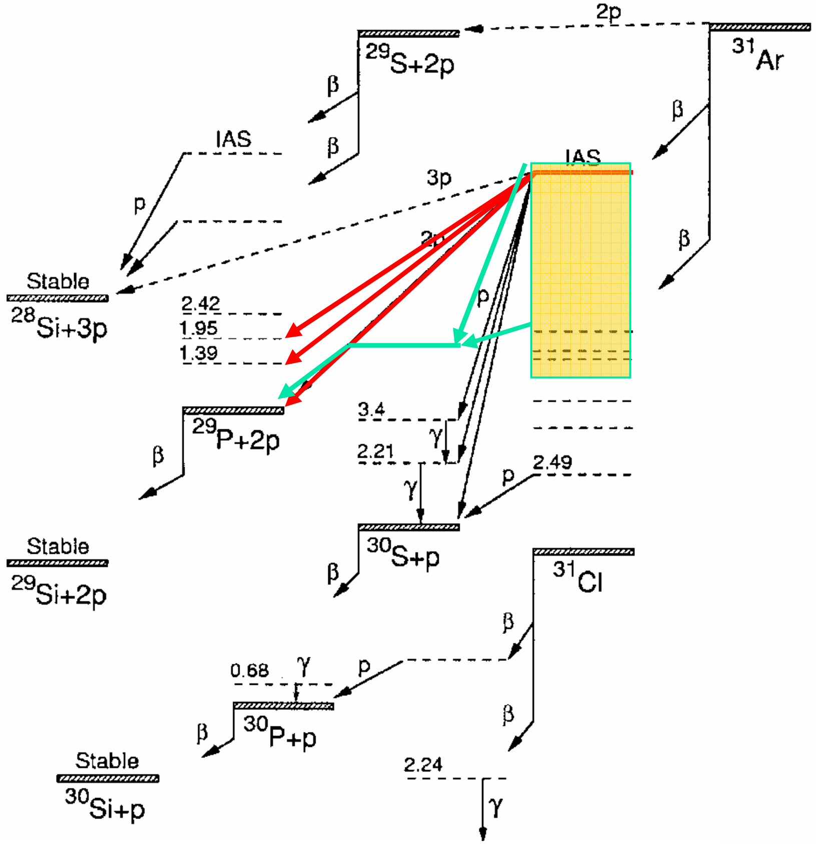
- Absolute branching ratios /MSU
- Very precise $T_{1/2}$ determination /ISOLDE
- ft = 1552(12) s for the Fermi decay
- Isospin Symmetry breaking Correction

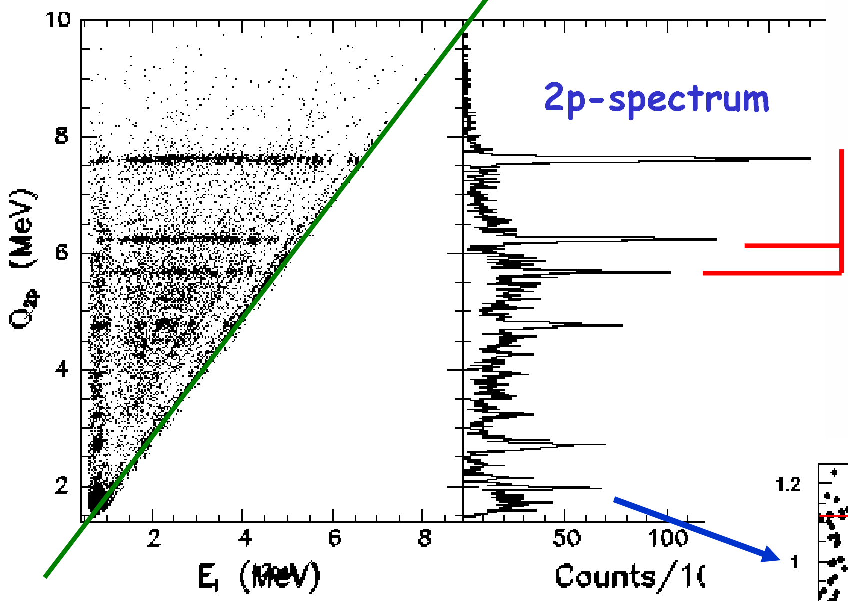
δ_c = 2.0(4) %

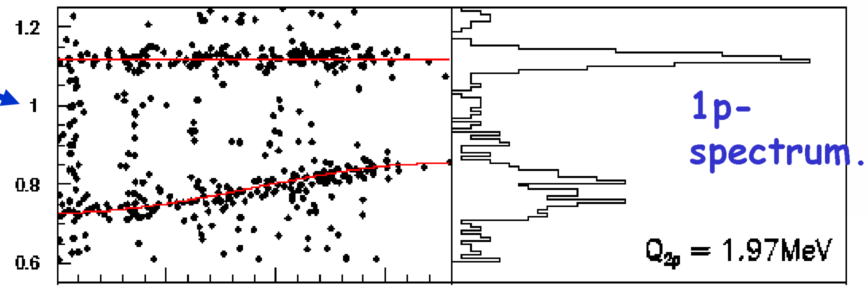
^{31}Ar β-2p emitter

Decay of IAS through
2p emission

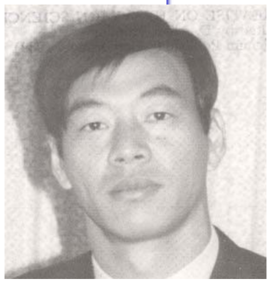
Diagonal from decays via single intermediate state from many initial states fed in beta-decay







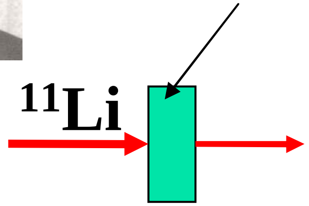
Surprise at the neutron drip line: Halo nuclei



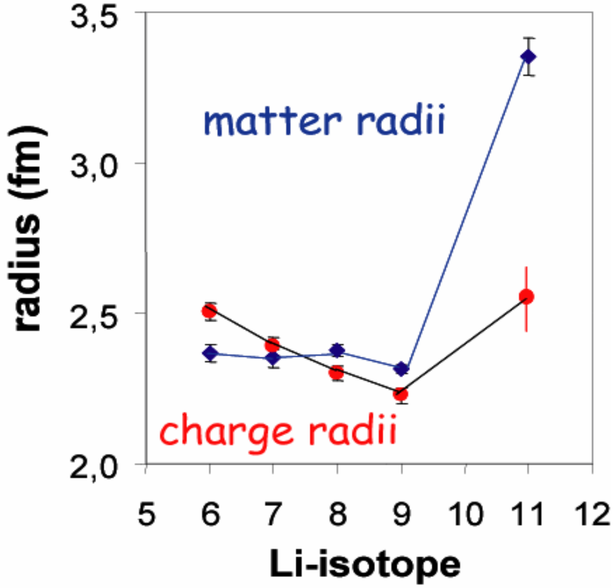
Tanihata

1985, First experiments with radioactive nuclear beams, Berkeley (USA)

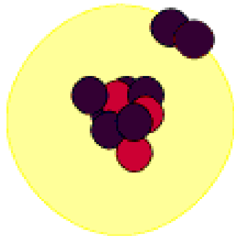
Be, C and Al



$$\sigma_I \Rightarrow \langle r^2_{mass} \rangle^{1/2}$$



$$\sigma_I(p,t) = \pi[R_I(p) + R_I(t)]^2$$



Hansen & Jonson

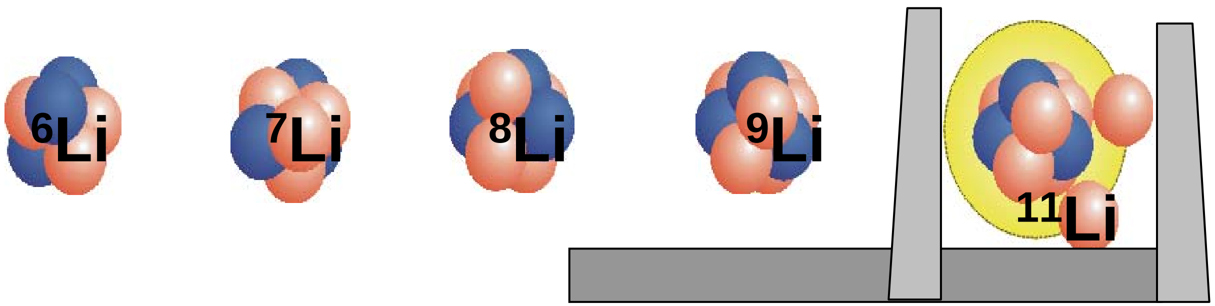
Europhys. Lett. 4 (1987) 287

$R_m(^{11}Li)$ = 3.30(24) fm

$R_c(^{11}Li)$ = 2.47(4) fm

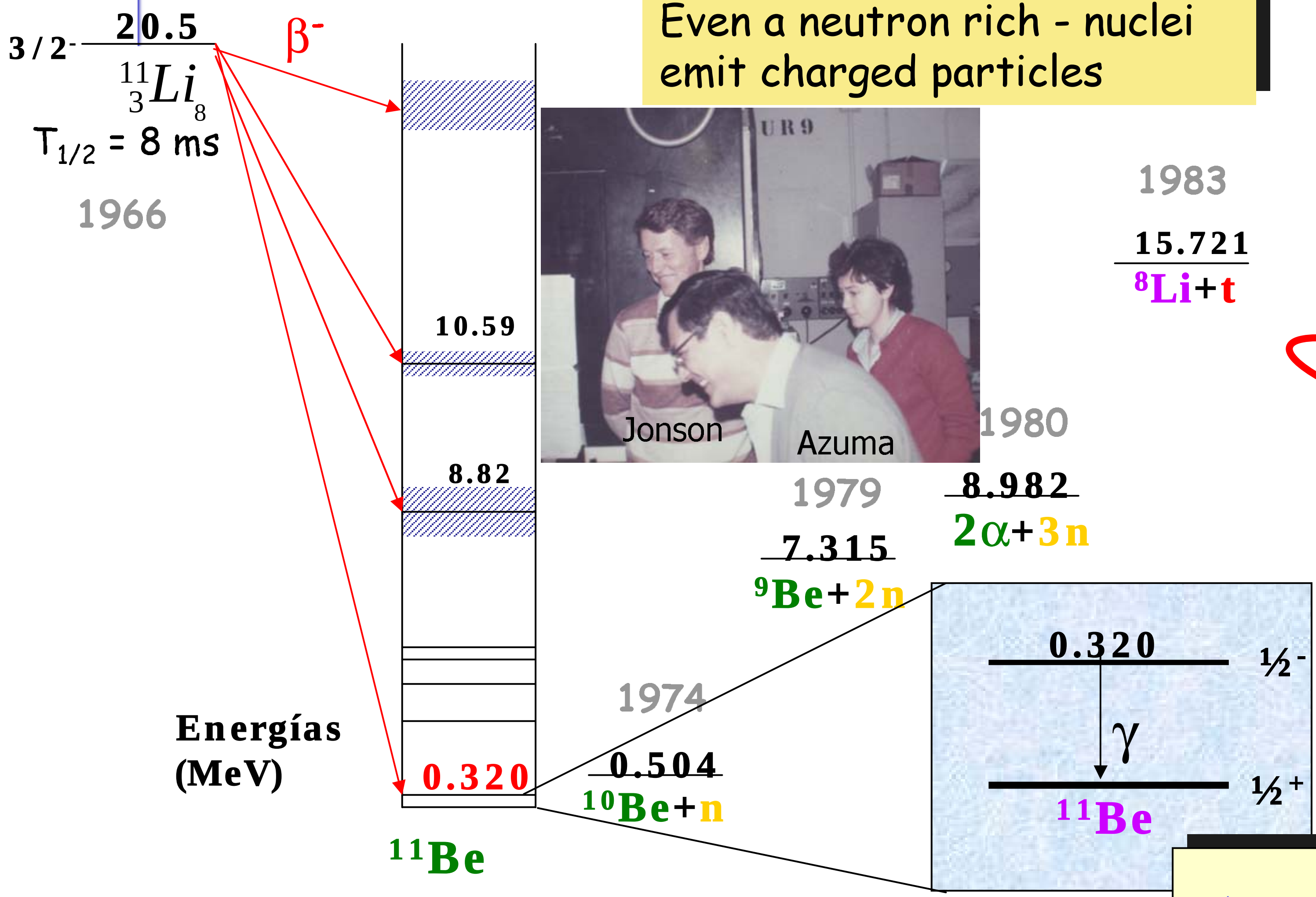
¿Why is the mass radius so large?

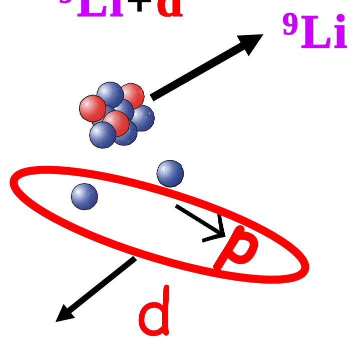
- ✓Energy threshold effect (S_{2n} = 378(5)keV)
- ✓Highlight by nuclear reactions
- ✓Effects in beta decay



Beta decay of an exotic nuclei

Even a neutron rich - nuclei emit charged particles

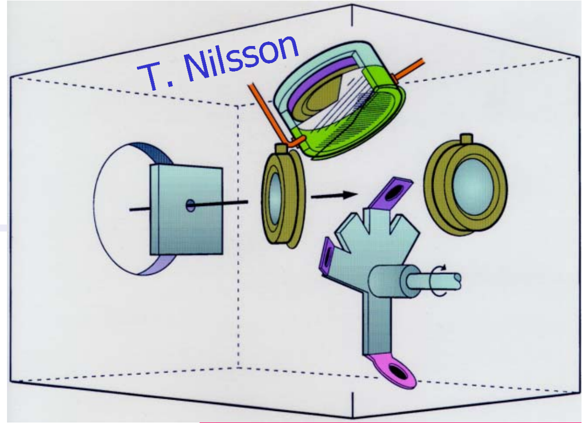




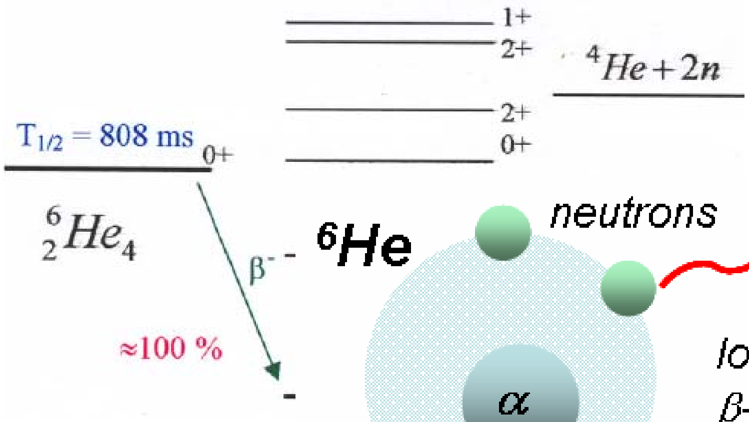
Q = 20.54 MeV,
$T_{1/2}$= 8.2 ms
b(320) = 6.3(6) %

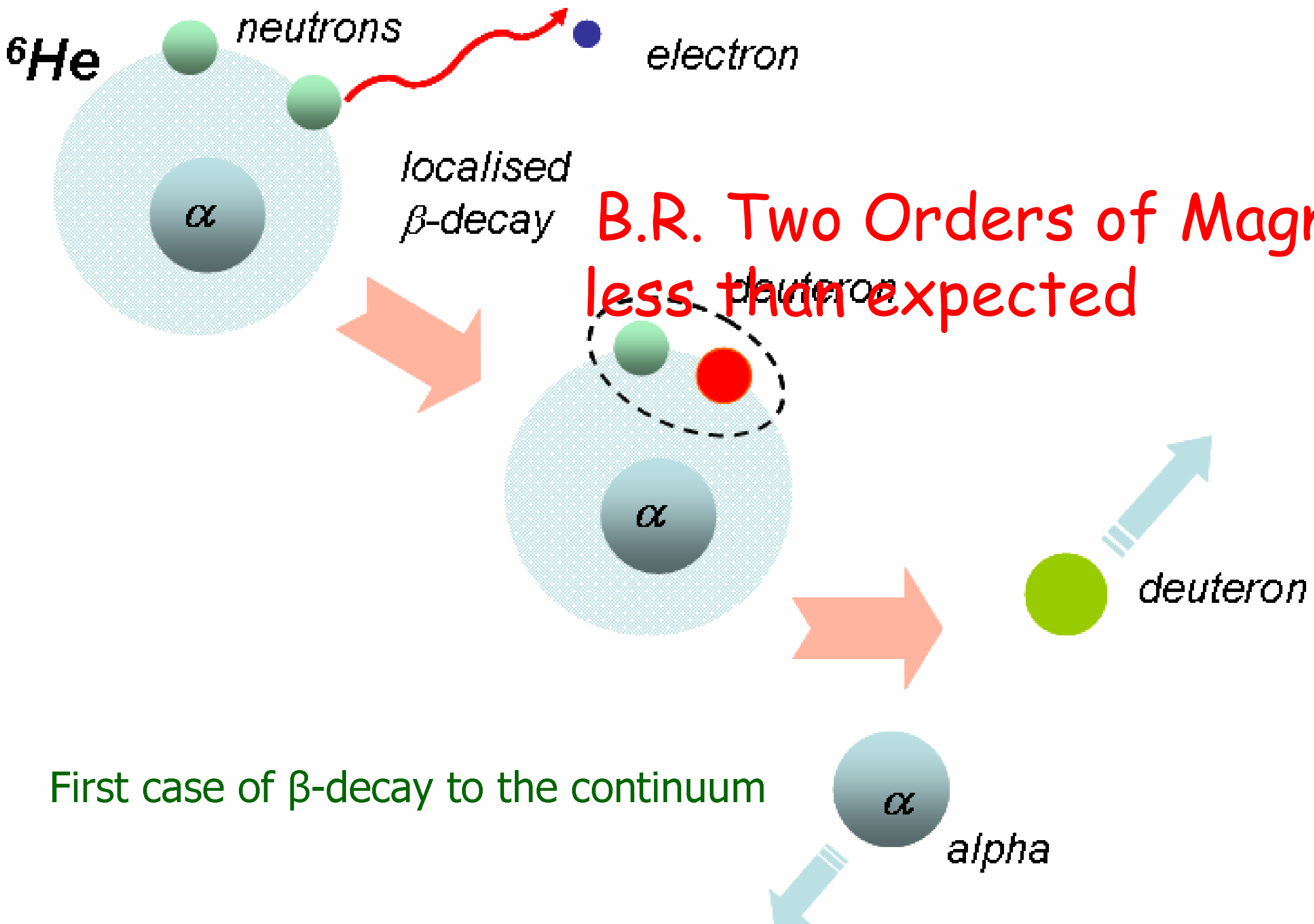
$$(1s_{1/2})^2/(0p_{1/2})^2 \sim 1$$

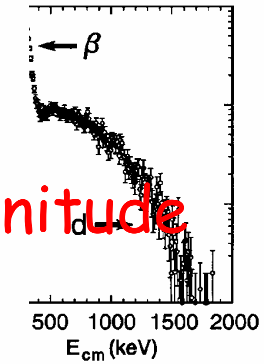
Beta-delayed deuterons

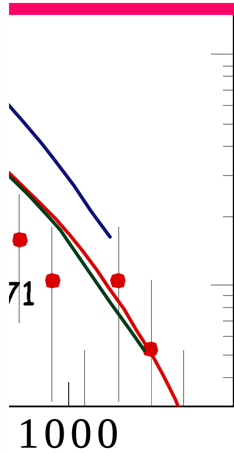


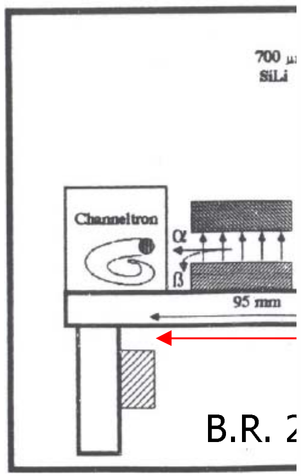
$Q_{\beta d} = 3.007 - S_{2n}$ MeV









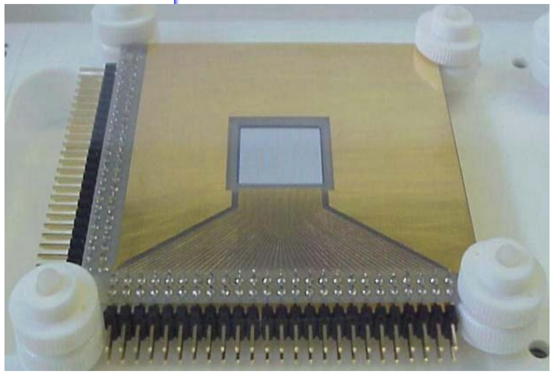


Riisager et al., I

B.R. Two Orders of Magnitude less than expected

First case of β-decay to the continuum

^{11}Li βd spectrum finally measured @ TRIUMF!!

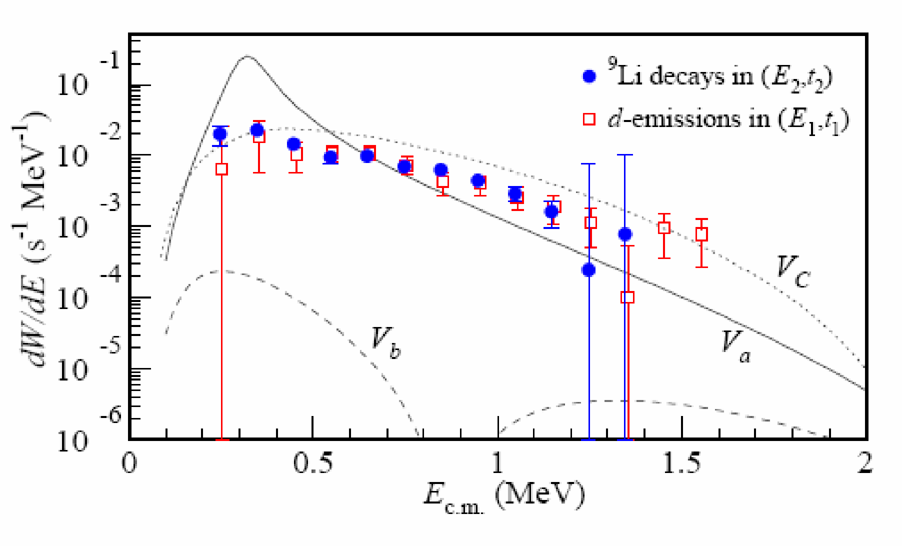


DSSSD 16x16 mm², 70μm thick

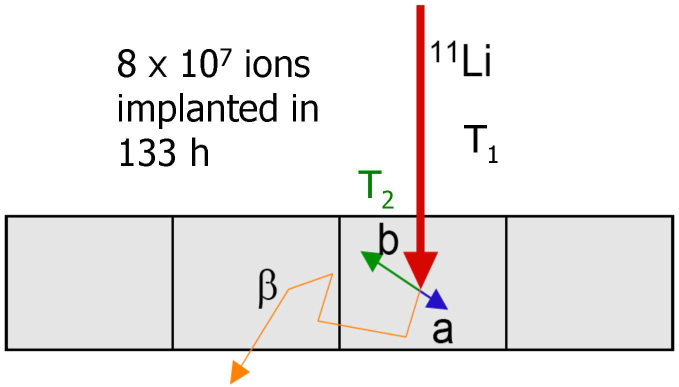
48x48 strips, 300 μm, 2304 pixels

J. Büscher et al., NIM B in press

- Implantation of 11Li beam on DSSSD Detector
- Very precise B.R.
- Low detection threshold
- Low beta background
- History of each decay



8 x 10^7 ions implanted in 133 h



B.R = 1.30(13)x10-4

E_{cm} > 200 keV

Deuteron Spectrum

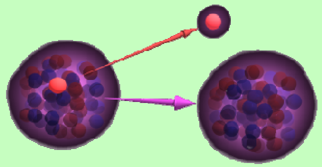
Decay to the continuum confirmed

Raabe et al, PRL 101 (2008) 212501

Exotic Radioactivities

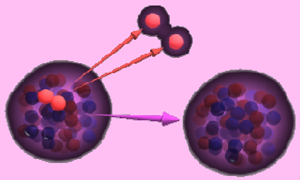
1p-radioactivity

(Z,N) → p + (Z-1,N)

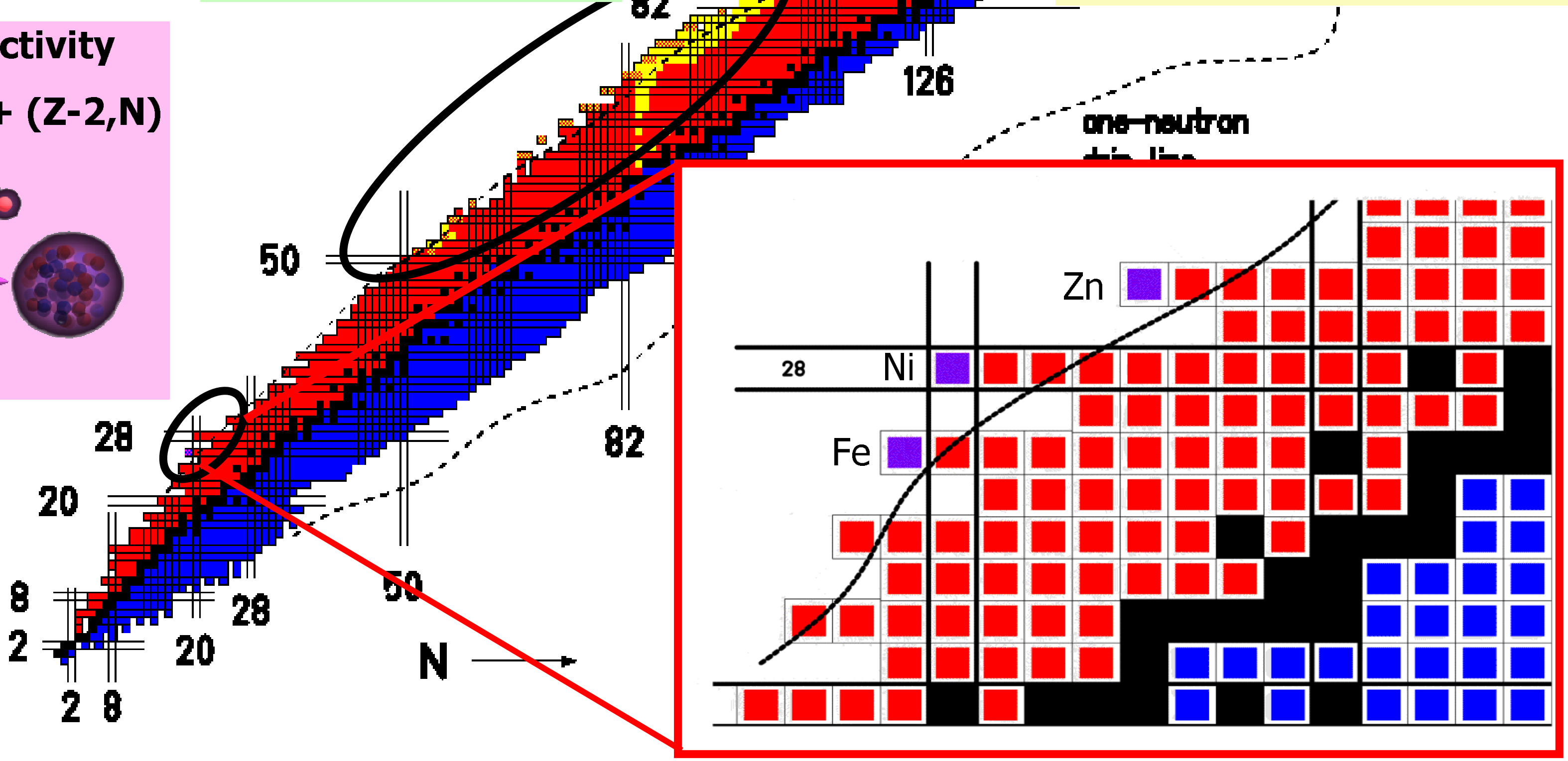


2p-radioactivity

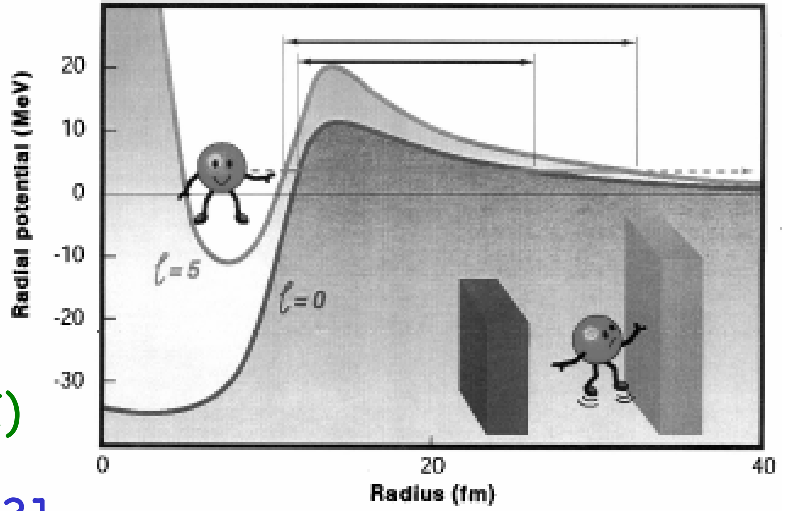
(Z,N) → 2p + (Z-2,N)



These nuclei at the edge of nuclear existence highlight various phenomena related to the binding of nucleons in the nucleus



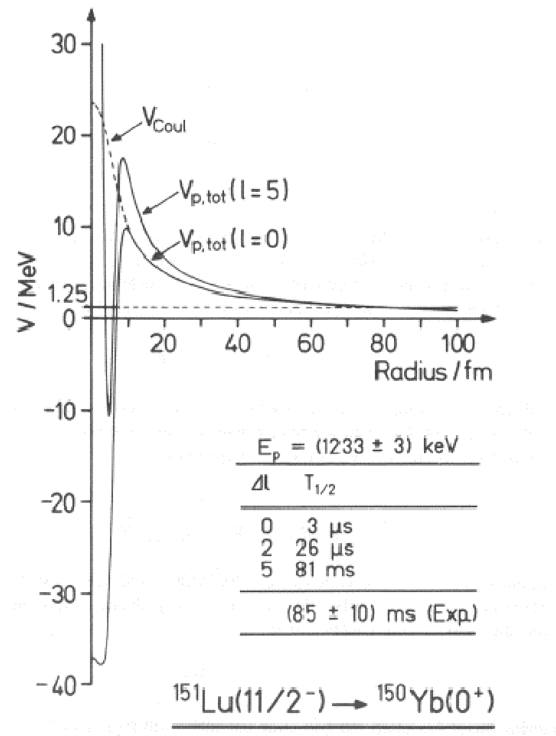
1 Proton Radioactivity



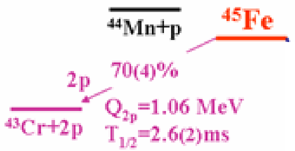
✓ Proton-radioactivity from gs fixed the proton drip-line of this region.

✓ First observed in ^{151}Lu & ^{147}Tm (1981 @ GSI)

- Emission of protons only from odd-Z ∈[50-83], 28 g.s. proton emitters identified.
- The sensitivity of $T_{1/2}$ to angular momentum allows for the assignment of the orbital from which the proton is emitted.
- *As* protons are detected with high efficiency, proton emitters are used to identify nuclei in Recoil Decay Tagging (RDT).
- p-emission from *highly deformed* nuclei has been observed and decay rates explained assuming Nilsson states.
- Stringent test of shell model beyond drip line.



Two proton Radiactivity



Found 2002

By Bordeaux & Warsaw

Predicted in the 60's by Goldanskii as consecuence of the pairing force ⇒ easier to eject the pair that break it apart

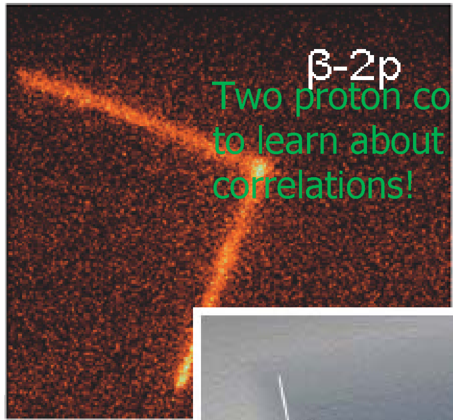
Miernik et al,

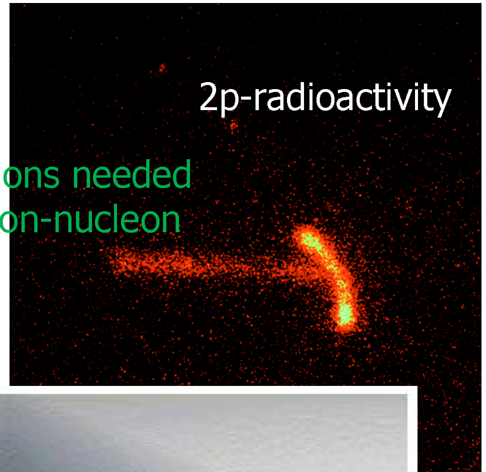
NIM A 581 (2007) 194

PRL 99 (2007) 192501

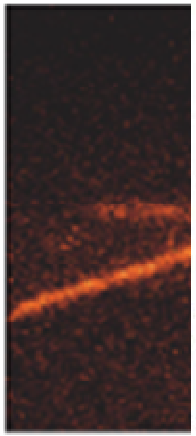
PRC 76 (2007) 041304R

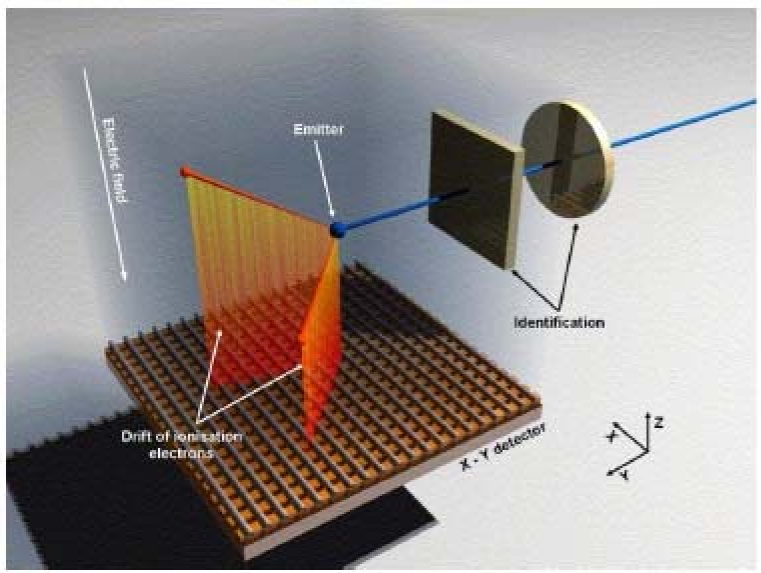
2p-correlations observed in 2007

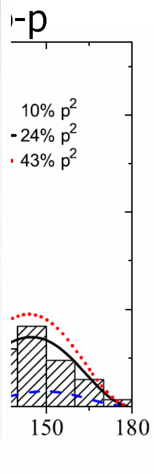


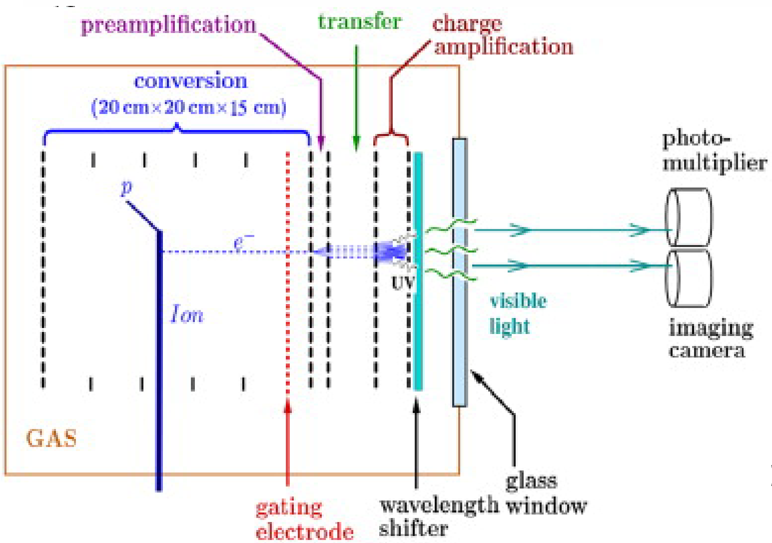


Two proton correlations needed to learn about nucleon-nucleon correlations!









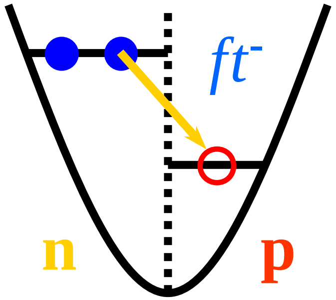
Mirror Asymmetry ?

- Charge independence hypothesis of nuclear interactions: symmetry of analog β transitions

$\beta^- : n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$

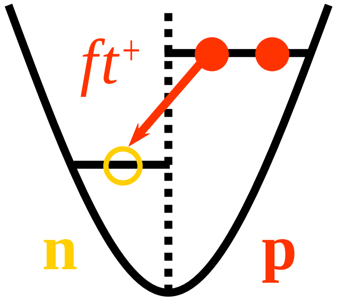
$\beta^+ \; : p \rightarrow n + e^+ + \nu$

$E.C. : p + e^- \rightarrow n + \nu$



$$ft^{\pm} = \frac{K}{g_V^2 B_F^{\pm} + g_A^2 B_{GT}^{\pm}}$$

$$K/g_V^2 = 6146(6)s \qquad g_A^2/g_V^2 = 1.587(3)$$



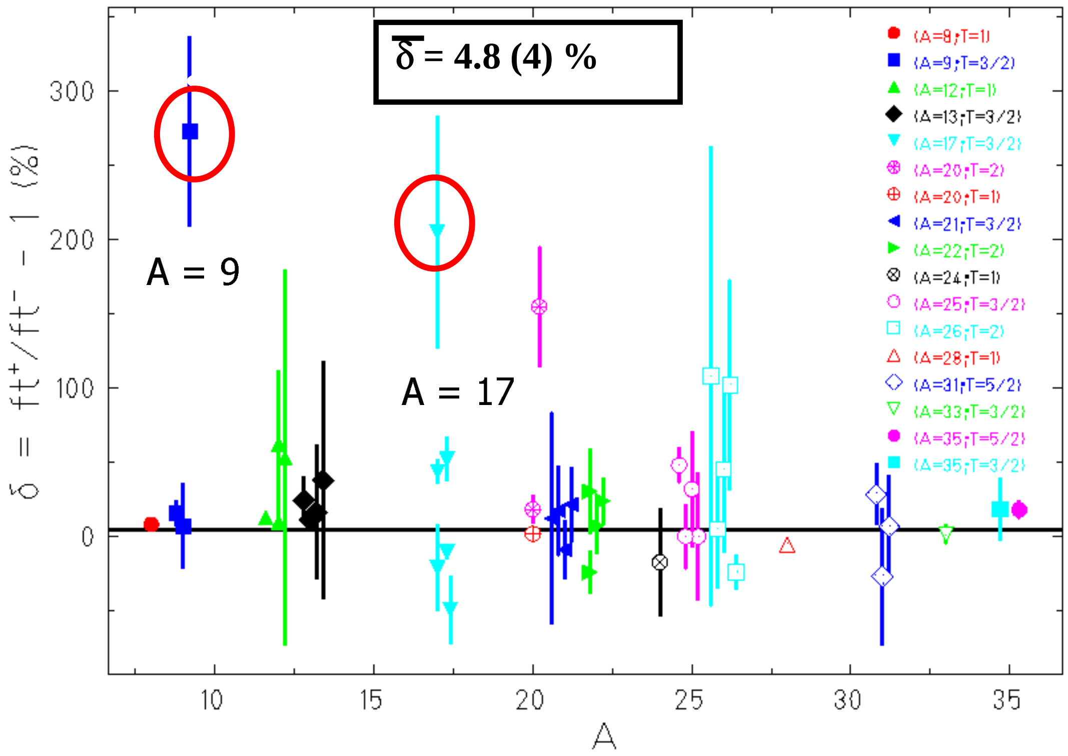
- Isospin symmetry breaking $\Rightarrow$ asymmetry in mirror β-decays

$$\delta = \frac{ft^+}{ft^-} - 1$$

$$\delta = \delta_{nuc} + \delta_{SCC}$$

Systematics of experimental δ values (A≤40)

Thomas et al., AIP Conf. Proc 681, p. 235



- **Allowed Gamow-Teller transitions (log(ft)<6)**

→**17 couples of nuclei**

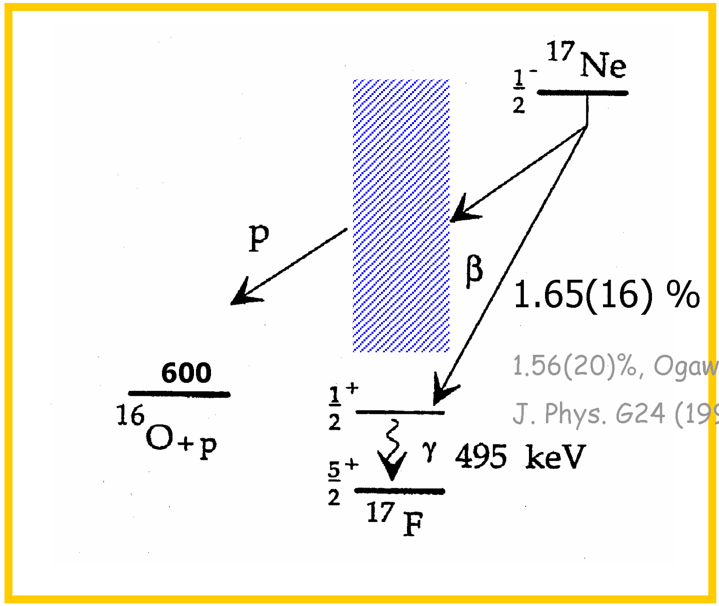
→**46 mirror transitions**

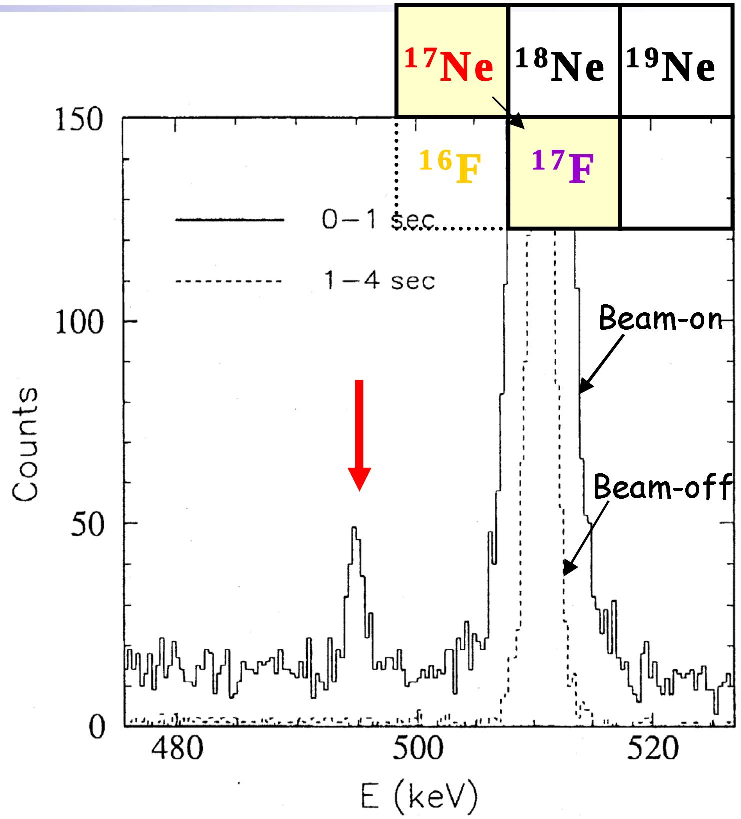
Average asymmetry δ :

- **11 (1) % in the 1p shell (A<17)**
- **0 (1) % in the (2s,1d) shell (17<A<40)**

First identification of a proton-halo state

Rolfs, NPA217(73)29





Borge et al., PLB317(93)25

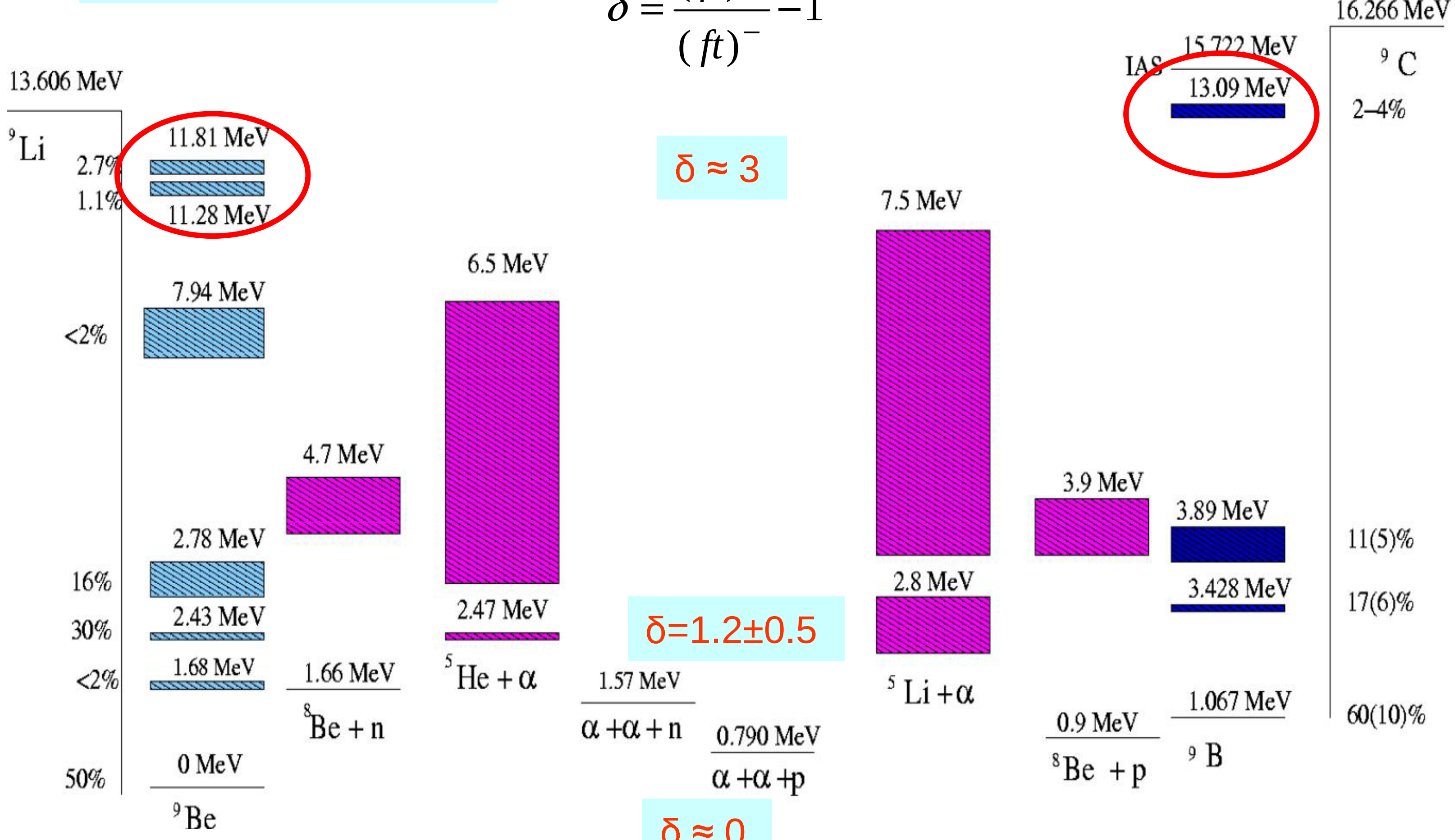
$$\delta = ft^+/ft^- - 1 = -0.55(09)$$

Asymmetry ⟷ Halo Structure

A = 9 Isobar

Large asymmetries

$$\delta = \frac{(ft)^+}{(ft)^-} - 1$$



Nyman et al., NPA 510 (1990) 189 *Mikolas et al., PRC 37 (1988) 766*

F. Ajzenberg-Selove, NPA 490 (1988) 1

Why to Study Light Nuclei ?

- "Exact" A-body calculations possible for $A \leq 12$

  Green Funtion Monte-Carlo methods

  Non-core Shell-model

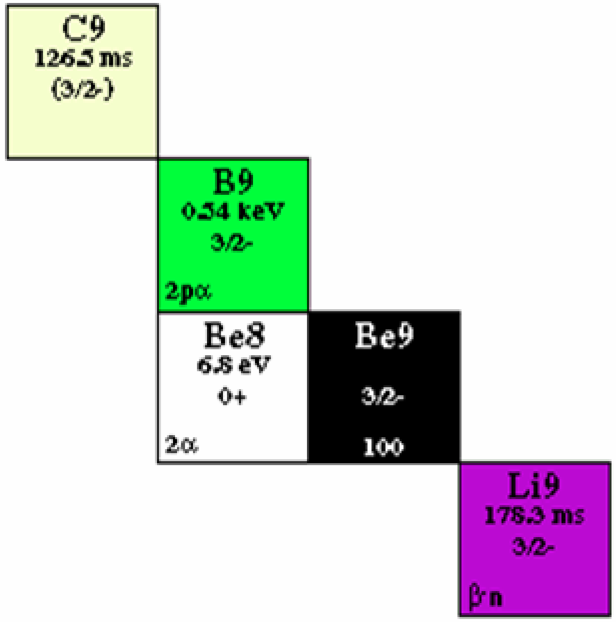
- Crucial for bridging A=5 and A=8 gaps in

  Big Bang and Stellar nuclear synthesis

  The $\alpha(\alpha n,\gamma)^9Be + {}^9Be(\alpha,n)^{12}C$

  Competes with triple-α in n-rich scenarios

  Importance of the $\alpha + n \leftrightarrow {}^5He(\alpha, \gamma)^9Be$



- Experimentally β-decay provides

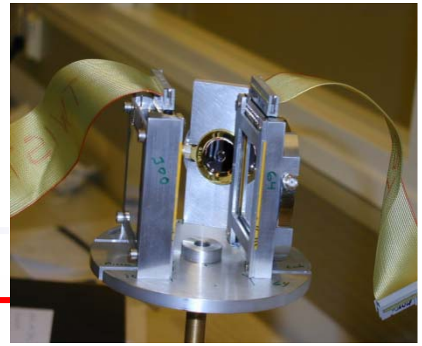
  Clean way to feed unbound states

  Break-up mechanism not fixed by kinematics

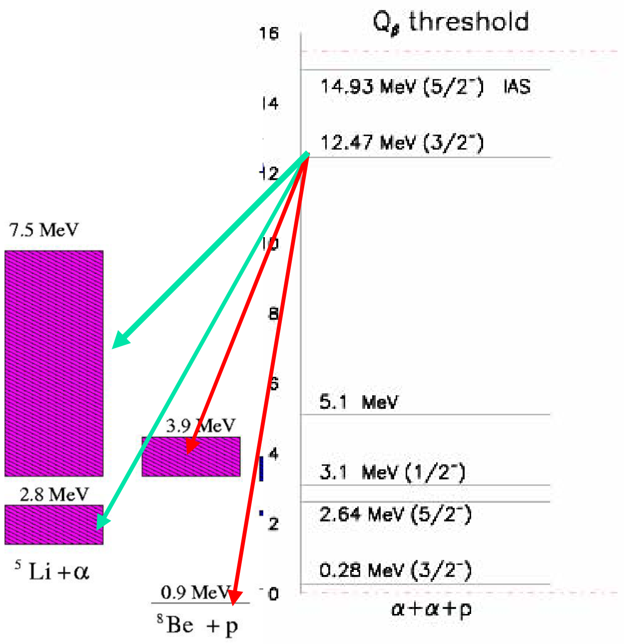
^{9}B States fed in β-decay of ^{9}C

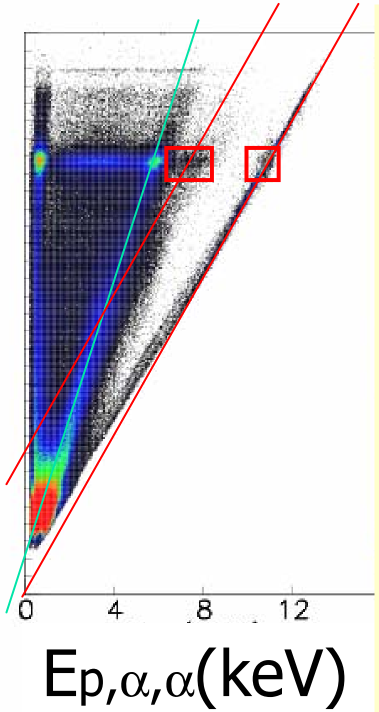
CSIC

IEM CSIC Grupo de Física Nuclear Experimental



$$E_{\mathrm{sum}} = \frac{\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{recoiling}} + \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{first}}}{\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{recoiling}}} E_{\mathrm{first}} + x \begin{cases} = 92\ \mathrm{keV}\ (9/8)\ \mathrm{for}\ {}^{8}Be(0^{+}) \\ \approx 2\ \mathrm{MeV}\ (9/5)\ \mathrm{for}\ {}^{5}Li(3/2^{-}) \\ = 3.0\ \mathrm{MeV}\ (9/8)\ \mathrm{for}\ {}^{8}Be(2^{+}) \end{cases}$$





- Sequential Decay of 12.2 MeV State via ^{8}Be(gs), ^{8}Be(2^{+}), ^{5}Li(gs) and ^{5}Li(1/2)
- R-Matrix-formalism applied.
- MC-simulations to account for efficiencies of each channel
- Results E: 12.19(4) MeV

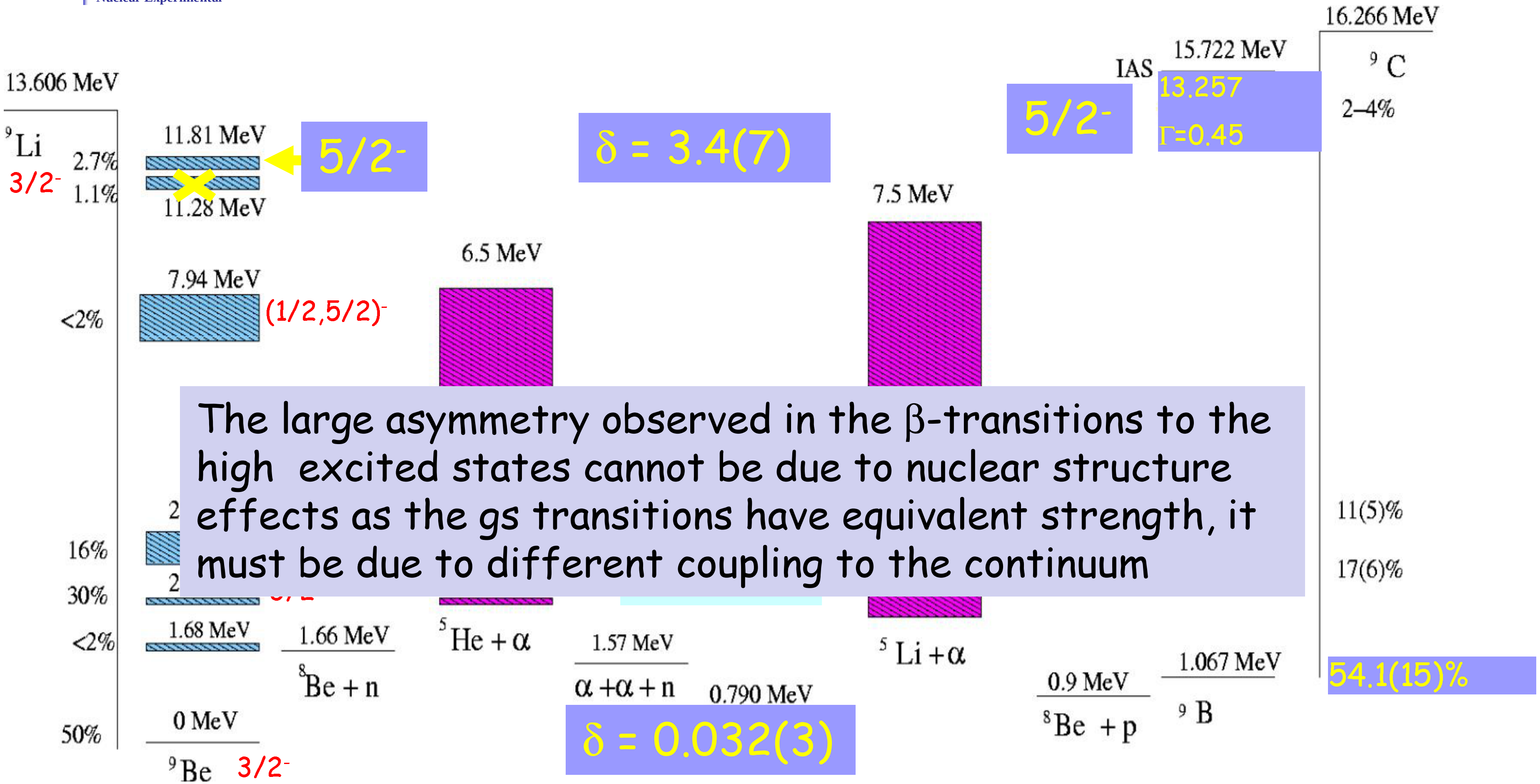
  Γ: 450(20) keV

  J: 5/2

  B_{GT}: 1.20(15)

UC Bergmann, NPA 692 (2001)427

A = 9 isobar



The large asymmetry observed in the β-transitions to the high excited states cannot be due to nuclear structure effects as the gs transitions have equivalent strength, it must be due to different coupling to the continuum

Nyman et al., NPA 510 (1990) 189

Mikolas et al., PRC 37 (1988) 766

PLB576 (2003)55

F. Ajzenberg-Selove, NPA 490 (1988) 1

NP A692(2001)427

CSIC

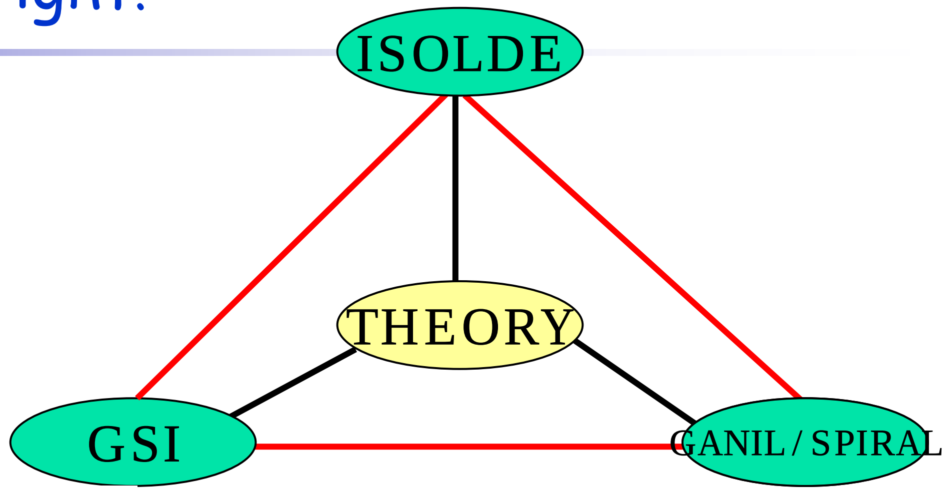
IEM CSIC
Grupo de Física
Nuclear Experimental

Summary

- Decay modes: peering into nuclear structure
- Exotics decays: testing shell model beyond the drip line
  peering into nucleon-nucleon correlations
- Large Asymmetries: ^{17}Ne, ^{17}N halo structure
  ^{9}C, ^{9}Li coupling to the continuum
- Level densities → Fluctuations → Chaos
  ↓
  Relevant for astrophysics

CSIC
IEM CSIC
Grupo de Física Nuclear Experimental

The future is bright!



REX-ISOLDE

FAIR

Spiral2

With the power of the new accelerators

And the developments in detectors

We will discover new structures and

characterize the inmense amount of

new nuclei

Thanks

for your Attention!!